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CASANOVA, EL VAMPIRO CANANDIENSE RAPE SIN MELENA AL PIRATA MORGAN

In the final Friday night card of the late spring/early summer EMLL tour of la Arena Mexico, Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense (Ian Hotchkisson) defeated el Pirata Morgan (Francisco Ortiz Villanueva) two falls to one in the main event of a *caballero contra caballero* match. The match, a very bloody one (aren't all of the EMLL hair matches bloody specials?) was said to be very good by Lucha Libre Weekly correspondent David Scherer of Seaville, New Jersey.

In the first fall, Morgan basically squashed Vampiro. Morgan attacked Vampiro as soon as Vampiro hit the ring (before introductions had started). Vampiro got zero offense in this fall. He was posted and then submitted cleanly to the scorpion death lock submission hold.

The second fall was nearly a repeat of the first--Vampiro got zero offense here. It seemed they wanted Pirata, even though he was going to lose, to look as strong as possible. At one point, Vampiro was posted again and clearly would not have beat the count of twenty as rendered by referee "el Gato Montini." If Vampiro had been counted out, he would have had his hair cut. However, Pirata went outside the ring and threw Vampiro back in. Morgan continued pounding on Vampiro, in the corner, until el Gato Montini kept warning Morgan to break from the corner. Morgan kept pounding, even throwing Vampiro into the first row of seats (even in front of an old lady {not Virginia Aguilera} in the front row), and then pushed Montini away, causing even heel ref Montini to disqualify Morgan.

The third fall saw, finally, a babyface comeback by Vampiro. As you can imagine, this got quite a bit of heat--especially female heat vis a vis shrieks. After a very few near falls, Morgan picked up Vampiro for a body slam and Vampiro turned it into a small package for a clean babyface pinfall victory, as Montini counted fairly. Morgan then walked to the middle of the ring and official EMLL barber Poncho Penaloza cut Morgan's hair with nary a protest. Vampiro bled a whole bunch (as much as the week before) but, surprisingly, Morgan bled not a bit. Thus did the second Infemale in three weeks (M. S. 1 lost to el Faraon) to lose his hair. This was rated at *** 1/2.

The semifinal saw a NWA World Light Heavyweight Championship title match between champion el Satanico (Jose Daniel Lopez Lopez) and challenger Lizmark (Juan Banos). El Satanico was seconded by la Bestia Salvaje and Lizmark was seconded by el Hijo de Lizmark. The first two falls were even. El Satanico submitted in the first fall to the scorpion death lock. Lizmark submitted in the second fall to a double arm stretcher submission hold. The third fall saw Lizmark lift el Satanico into a "Rito Romero special" called in Mexico *la tapatia* but el Satanico shifted his weight back so that both men's shoulders were flat on the mat. This is a common double pin finish in Mexico (particularly in the UWA). However, just before "Mister Justicia" referee Roberto "el Guero" Rangel started to count both men down for the third count, el Satanico raised up his shoulder, leaving Lizmark to be pinned. So, el Satanico won and retained his World Title, as the 47th NWA champion, in his third successful defense of the title he had won April 5th, 1992, from Lizmark at la Arena Mexico. This was a clinic on mat wrestling, with few high spots and no outside interference from either second. This also made the fourth clean finish in four stipulation matches on the last three weeks' television, something I believe the other promotions would be well advised to note. This was also rated at *** 1/2.

Two other matches aired on television from the July 17th card (it aired on channel 9 in Mexico City on July 18, 1992, at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm MDT). The *tercera* saw a non-title match between the CMLL World Trios Champions los Intocables del Ring (Jaque Mate, Masakre, and captain Pierroth junior) and the trio team of Salomon Grondy, el Rayo de Jalisco junior, and captain Atlantis. This also turned into a good match, in part because Grondy was not in that much. The first fall went to the tecnicos when, after a rare Salomon Grondy drop kick, Atlantis pinned Pierroth with a regular forward *rana*. The second fall went to the rudos los Intocables as Pierroth body sammed and then covered Grondy for the clean pinfall; Rayo was counted out of the ring against Masakre; while simultaneously Jaque Mate made Atlantis submit to the figure four leg lock. The third fall saw Grondy prepare to splash Pierroth from off of the second rope, but Pierroth pulled a ref in the way and the ref was hit instead; thus, Pierroth and his team were

disqualified. The match was rated by Scherer at *** for work, but he subtracted 1/4 * for the cheap finish, leaving the final grade at ** 3/4.

The *segunda* at the arena was the television opener. In it, Jose "el Negro" Casas, el Felino (who is Negro Casas's legit brother who used to wrestle as "Babe" Casas), and captain la Bestia Salvaje (Juan Manuel Carillo Rodriguez) defeated the trio of The Blue Demon junior (Luis Rabadan junior), Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon (Yoshihiro Asai), and captain el Dandy (Roberto Gutierrez Frias) two falls to one. The story here was that Salvaje pinned Dandy to end both the second and the third falls. Presumably, this sets up Salvaje as the number one challenger for el Dandy's CMLL World Middleweight Championship. Also presumably these would be great matches, if they come off. The first fall saw Demon make Felino submit to the scorpion death lock (boy did somebody offer to pay these guys extra every time they used the scorpion?) after el Felino had totally missed a moonsault press; also in the first fall, Dragon pinned Salvaje. The third fall, by the way, saw Casas pin Dragon with the *Dandina* cradle, el Dandy's finisher known more formally as *la magistral*. Also in the third, Demon, not known as a high flyer, did a super *plancha* onto el Felino. By the way, this is the first match I have any record of, since I started following lucha libre daily in July 1989, that el Felino and brother Negro Casas worked on the same team. Now, I may have missed one, but the point is that this is a pretty rare occurrence. This was rated at *** 1/2.

The match that did not air on television saw el Trio Metalico (Bronce, Plata, and captain Oro) face las Cavernicolas I, II, y III, who are made up of Cro Magnon (ex-el Hombre Bala), Troglodita (ex-el Verdugo), and captain Popitekus. Also, a ceremony was held where head ladies' wrestler Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales (wife of Fishman) introduced the new *luchadoras* who had graduated from her training school. I believe that All Japan Womens' Professional Wrestling lady wrestlers Yumiko Hotta and Suzuka Minami were also introduced on this card, as they are in on a tour of a few weeks. The two Japanese ladies definitely did not wrestle.

The Sunday before, July 12, 1992, the EMLL held its penultimate Sunday card of this tour of la Arena Mexico. The main event saw los Nuevos Infernales (M. S. 1, el Satanico, and captain el Pirata Morgan) defeat the trio of el Rayo de Jalisco junior, The Love Machine (Arthur James Barr), and captain Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense two falls to one. This match helped set up the Morgan/Vampiro match for the next Friday night. The finish saw Morgan post Vampiro, "knocking him out," and get a clean pinfall victory over a bloody Vampiro in the third fall. Vampiro even did a stretcher job. The heat for this was incredible. Also, in the final two falls, M. S. 1 pinned el Rayo de Jalisco junior cleanly to set up M. S. 1 as the challenger for Rayo's Mexican National Heavyweight Championship, a match that was held on Sunday, July 19th. This match was said to be good, but with a ton of heat. Vampiro is so over that he attracts some fans that might not come and has incredible reactions from female fans. The semifinal saw el Hijo del Solitario, la Bestia Salvaje, and Jose "el Negro" Casas defeat el Hijo de Tinieblas, Apolo Dantes, and Black Magic (Norman Smiley) two falls to one. The major heat here, as has been the case lately, was between now mortal enemies Solitario and Dantes. This was said to be a good match, with Soli pinning Dantes in the third fall. This set up a singles match (no other stipulations) between Solitario and Dantes for July 19th, at la Arena Naucalpan. The third match on the card saw el Trio Metalico (Oro, Plata, and Bronce) defeat The Team From Beyond The Grave (el Espectro junior, el Espectro de Ultratumba, and el Cadaver de Ultratumba) in three falls in a match marked by good dives by the "metals" in the third fall. The second match saw the new wrestler Lynx (Super Luchas says Lynx debuted 06/24/1992 in Acapulco, Guerrero, and that he was born in Piedras Negras, Coahuila and trained by Ringo Mendoza) and el Archangel de la Muerte defeated also new wrestler el Halcon Dorado II and veteran Javier "el CHamaco" Valaguez in three falls. The opener saw the tiny Eclipse and the underrated el Guerrero Samurai II defeat the regular veteran *pareja* of Babe Richard and Master in three falls.

Thanks to Titanes del Ring, I also have various results from la Arena Coliseo. In chronological order, here they are. First, from June 14th, 1992, The Blue Demon junior, la Aguila Solitaria, and el Jalisco won two out of three falls from la Bestia Salvaje, el Egipcio, and el Pirata Morgan in the main event, while in the semifinal Kato Kung Lee senior, Kato Kung Lee junior, and el Cachorro Mendoza won two out of three falls from Satanas, Kung Fu, and el Septiembre Negro junior. On June 16th, 1992, in the card where Atlantis defeated la Bestia Salvaje to retain the NWA World Middleweight Championship (the finish was a clean power bomb), the semifinal saw The Blue Demon junior, la Mano Negra, and Lizmark win two out of three falls from los Nuevos Infernales. On June 21st, 1992, the main event saw Apolo Dantes, la Mano Negra, and la Aguila Solitaria defeat Kung Fu, el Egipcio, and el Guerrero de la Muerte in three falls. On June 23rd, 1992, the main event saw los Mosqueteros del Diablo, los Brazos (el Brazo de Oro, el Brazo, and el Brazo de Plata) win two out of three falls from Emilio CHarles junior, Nitron, and Sangre CHicana. The semifinal saw Apolo Dantes, CHavo Guerrero, and Kato Kung Lee senior over el Supremo I, el Hijo del Gladiador, and Kung Fu two falls to one, when, after Kung Fu busted his bottom lip wide open, CHavo pinned el Supremo I clean. The *segunda* saw los Guerreros del Espacio (el Guerrero Maya, el Guerrero del Futuro, and Damian, el Guerrero) defeating Rokambole, el CHamaco Ayala, and el Halcon Dorado II in three falls. I have no report on the *inicial*. From the card of June 28th, 1992, the main event saw Nitron, Javier "el Monarca" Cruz, and captain el Pirata Morgan defeating King Haku, Ringo Mendoza, and captain Lizmark in three falls when Morgan

pinned Lizmark after a blind foul. In the semifinal, Kung Fu, Hussein el Gran Sheick, and el Hijo del Gladiador won two out of three falls from the trio of la Aguila Solitaria, Javier "el CHamaco" Valaguez, and the new wrestler el Torbellino Negro. Finally, the main event from Tuesday, June 30th, 1992, saw King Haku, CHavo Guerrero, and Apolo Dantes win two straight falls from el Espectro de Ultratumba, el Hijo del Solitario, and el Hijo del Gladiador. In this match, CHavo Guerrero replaced the double-booked "la Mascara Magica," who is in fact CHavo's youngest brother Eddy Guerrero. Also, el Hijo del Gladiador replaced the said-to-be-injured Javier "el Monarca" Cruz. The finish of the second fall and the match saw CHavo Guerrero pin el Hijo del Gladiador with the german suplex hold.

In other miscellaneous results, from the card of July 3rd, the matches that did not air on television saw: in the *tercera*, el Satanico, el Pirata Morgan, and Emilio CHarles junior were defeated in three falls by King Haku, Lizmark, and Atlantis. In the *segunda*, Pierroth junior, la Fiera, and la Bestia Salvaje defeated el Brazo de Plata, Ringo Mendoza, and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon in three falls. And in the *inicial*, las Cavernicolas II and III (i. e., el Hombre Bala and el Verdugo, the legit two older brothers of el Pirata Morgan) defeated The Blue Demon junior and Kato Kung Lee senior in three falls.

Now, on to some very recent cards in the EMLL ring:

* On Monday, July 13th, 1992, at the el Depotivo Olimpico gymnasium in Mexico City, the main event saw Jose "el Negro" Casas team with el Satanico to face el Dandy and Lizmark. The semifinal saw Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales and la Sirenita team to face la Venus and Kaoru Maeda, the very underrated lady wrestler from Japan's Universal Wrestling Federation. The *tercera* saw the original Carta Brava I (who must be closer to 50 than 40) team with el Mortadero junior to face Genaro Contreras junior (who I believe is Ringo Mendoza's son working essentially under his real name) and la Maravilla Dos Mil. The *segunda* saw el Felino Negro and Carta Brava junior face el Delito and el Elegante Balco. The opener saw The Black Birds I and II face The Bird Boy II and Nostradamus (no, not the prophet, he's been dead for some time now).

* On Thursday, July 18th, 1992, at la Arena Isabel in Cuernavaca, Morelos, the main event saw America, the CMLL World Welterweight Champion, face el Felino, the Mexican National Welterweight Champion, in a match in which only America's title was up for grabs. So, with a win, America would hold one belt, but if Ciclon won, he'd hold two. The opener saw Dick Angelo junior face el Escudero Rojo. The middle two matches were decided by the results of a battle royal. The first three men eliminated would face the next three, and the third three would face the three left remaining in the ring. The twelve wrestlers entered were tecnicos el Brazo, el Brazo de Oro, el Brazo de Plata, Apolo Dantes, la Mascara Magica, and el Dandy; plus rudos el Satanico, Jose "el Negro" Casas, Emilio Charles junior, el Hijo del Gladiador, el Comando Ruso, and el Hijo del Solitario.

* On Saturday, July 18th, 1992, at la Arena Puebla in Puebla, Puebla, the main event saw Toro Bill and el Jabato, two local wrestlers, face each other in a *caballera contra caballera* match. The *segunda* and *inicial* were not listed by the newspapers, but the semifinal saw Atlantis, Apolo Dantes, and the very dangerous "wrestler to be announced" (who I bet is from parts unknown) facing the rudo squadron of el Satanico, el Gran Markus junior, and Emilio CHarles junior. And the *tercera* saw el Trio Metalico face las Cavernicolas I, II, & III again. By the way, el Trio Metalico are still the State of Mexico Trios Champions, and none of the matches listed recently for "the metals" were title matches.

* On Sunday, July 19th, 1992, at la Arena Naucalpan in Naucalpan, Mexico, as I previously mentioned, the main event was a *mano a mano* between el Hijo del Solitario and Apolo Dantes. The semifinal saw the Naucalpan Pareajs Champions, el Archangel de la Muerte (who is also a fabulous rookie that I did not mention last week) and el Guerrero de la Muerte defending their titles versus Talisman junior and Kundra.

* Also on Sunday, July 19th, 1992, at la Arena San Lorenzo, which is located in the Distrito Federal area in the suburb of Antiguo Canal de Chalco, the main event saw el Hijo del Gladiador and la Bestia Salvaje facing la Mano Negra and Casanova el Vampiro Canadiense. The semifinal saw a *caballeras contra caballeras* (two hairs lost) match between el Padrino and el Infernal versus el Desafio and el Mohicano I (I bet the former team lost). The *tercera* saw The Bird Boy I defend his UWA World Featherweight Championship versus challenger and former UWA World Lightweight Champion Coralillo. I don't know any other matches on this card.

* Also on Sunday July 19th, as mentioned earlier, el Rayo de Jalisco junior defended his newly won Mexican National Heavyweight Championship versus the challenge of M. S. 1. I hope to have results in a late news section this week!

* And on Monday, July 20th, 1992, at the el Deportivo Olimpico gymnasium, the main event saw Atlantis and The Blue Demon junior face el Hijo del Solitario and la Bestia Salvaje.

* Also, on Monday, July 20th, 1992, in a card that should be in the UWA section (but I ran out of room), at the "el Palenque" gymnasium in Morelion, The Steel Warriors I and II (los Guerreros del Aceros I y II) met los Tinieblas senior and junior (with Alushe) in the main event. The semifinal saw el Tigre Canadiense and el Coloso face The Black Power II and Zeus. The *segunda* had Resplandor face el Rayo Tapatio I. The *inicial* saw Razama face The Bird Man I.

In miscellaneous EMLL news (not strictly card- or result-related):...* The Arena magazine is now pretty much totally affiliated with the EMLL. Originally, after the split, the thought had been that it would go and feature solely on AAA stars, but this week's features were Lizmark, el Pirata Morgan, and Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales, each of whom has lost a big singles stipulation match at la Arena Mexico this tour! Is it a magazine cover jinx all over again?... I have another referee's real name to report: "El Tigre Hispano" is Ventura Lahoz. Also, "Rafael el Maya"s real first name is Rafael, but I do not have his surname....* Both luchadoras Zuleyma and Josseline are out of action with blown out knees. Both had major (i.e., non-arthroscopic) knee surgery and are said to be out indefinitely....* El Hijo de Lizmark, interviewed recently in Super Luchas, said he weighs 104 kg (229.3 lbs) and is 186 cm tall (6'1.2") tall. Also recently interviewed in Super Luchas was el Faraon, who said he was born in Mexico City and debuted on June 19, 1973. In this article, they mentioned that el Faraon was still the NWA World Intercontinental Light Heavyweight Champion, a title he won from el Pirata Morgan on October 13, 1992, at la Pista Arena Revolucion, but a belt that had pretty much been forgotten when el Faraon had been sacked in early 1991. Lynx and King Haku were also interviewed by Super Luchas....* Titanes del Ring gave nice write-ups to el Satanico, Razama (secondnd time in three weeks), Christian Diaz (also second time in three weeks), el Duro (who was born in 1966 in the Distrito Federal, debuted in 1985, and debuted as el Duro in 1992), Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales, and Guadalajara rookie, 85-kger la Pantera Blanca....* EMLL wrestler America (as el Pantera II) will join AAA wrestlers el Panterita del Ring and Super Atomo (as Robin Hood) and UWA wrestlers Shu, el Guerrero, el Scorpio junior, Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada, Transformer (as Kendo), and el Tortugillo Karateka I Donatelo (as Rocky Santana) on the August tour of Japan for the Universal Wrestling Federation office booked by el Brazo de Oro through his younger brother Super Atomo (Robin Hood)....* Speaking of Super Atomo/Robin Hood, he was officially recognized by the old SNL union and the Distrito Federal commission as a maestro, an official lucha libre trainer. Atomo, real name Aaron Alvarado Nieves, has closed his tiny gym and now teached classes out of the gym of his original trainer, Felipe Ham Lee, in downtown Mexico City....* The weekly magazine Custodia runs a lucha libre column in its center section every week. This week, in the 7/28/92 issue, for the second straight week, it castigated all the promotions for cheap finishes involving referees in the last year and the growing trend of heel referees. Is it just me or did Paco Alonso and the EMLL come to the very same conclusion?...* El Trueno, a wrestler who just debuted last week (7/12) so far as I can tell, is doing promotional spots all over the place for a new union (non-wrestling-related). And in the ad spots for the national lottery, Atlantis, Pierroth junior, and la Bestia Salvaje, among others, and not actors portraying them, are doing print and television ads....* Japan's Weekly Pro Wrestling gave nice write-ups to the two blonde tecnicas of lucha libre, Xochitl Hamada and Lady Apache, though the article focused as much on their good lucks as their talent in the ring....* Look for el Hijo del Solitario and el Hijo del Gladiador to become a regular parejateam....* The EMLL television now airs regularly on Saturdays, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm PDT (7:00 pm to 9:00 pm EDT)....* El Nuevo Audaz got a nice write-up in an Ovaciones last week. In an effort to promote his interview at the newspaper's offices, he gave away one of his masks to a fan and signed autographs outside the newspaper building....* I had previously reported that Rick Patterson had lost his hair on 6/28 in a triangular at the "la Plaza de Toros 'Monumental'" bull ring in Monterrey. That match, by the way, drew a little over 13,000 fans in a facility that seats 14,500. It turns out that the week beofre, 6/21/92, in the same bull ring, in a bloody battle, Valente Fernandez, who used to work the UWA/el Toreo circuit full-time, had won a mano a mano jaula (cage) match from the very same Rick Patterson, who has now gone zero-for-four in big stipulation or singles matches in the bull ring in the last twelve months....* Roberto Rangel, in his Super Luchas column, said he was proud to referee the "great exhibition of wrestling" as the Dandy/Casas 7/3 match was....* Atlantis, el Medico Asesino junior, and Pierroth junior were among those entertainment stars invited to plant trees from Mexico's Arbor Day. AND NOW, for late results, here are the results from the card held Sunday, July 19th, 1992, at la Arena Mexico in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico. This was the final Sunday card of the seven-week late spring/early summer tour of la Arena Mexico. I do not know when they return. The main event saw el Rayo de Jalisco junior (Maximino Linares junior) tdefeated M. S. 1 (Pablo Fuentes Reyna) to retain his Mexican National Heavyweight Championship. This continued the third title reign for Rayo, who had won the title on Saturday, June 13th, 1992, from el Egipto (José Luis Hernandez) at la Pista Arena Revolucion in Mexico City. The first fall went to Rayo, who was said to have weighed 118 kg (or 260 lbs) for this match, and was seconded by Bronce. The finish of the third fall saw Rayo pin M. S. 1 clean after a tope en reversa (reverse jumping head butt. The second fall went to M. S. 1, who was said to have weighed 106 kg (234 pounds) and was seconded by el Espectro de Ultratumba, when M. S. 1 did the old "Superfly splash," the diving body press from off of the top rope onto Rayo. Rayo won the third fall and the match with an enredadera (small package). This was said to have really been a good match, with a ton of heat as well. It was wrestled very cleanly, with no outside interference from either second, and had clean finish. The semifinal saw Atlantis, el Faraon, and Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense win two straight falls from los Nuevos Infernales (el Satanico and el Pirata Morgan) and a third wrestler not listed. In the tercera, in a mano a mano, Apolo Dantes won via disqualification in the third fall from el Hijo del Solitario. The segunda saw "el Trio Metalico" (Oro, Plata, and Bronce) win two out of three falls from el Felino, el Espectro junior, and el Espectro de Ultratumba. And the inicial saw Enjambre, el Guerrero de la Muerte, and el Septiembre Negro junior win two out of three falls from el Guerrero Samurai II, el Filoso, y el Metalico. This ends this Arena Mexico tour.

AAA

Here are some of the latest AAA results.

* First, I have the full results from the June 27th card at la Arena Apatlaco in Iztapalapa, Mexico, Mexico. It was a card celebrating the 16th anniversary of lucha libre at the arena. In the main event, Octagon retained his Mexican National Middleweight Championship by defeating Fuerza Guerrera two falls to one. The seconds were la Mascara Sagrada (for Octagon) and Universo Dos Mil (for Fuerza Guerrera). Universo had just beaten Sagrada for the Mexican National Light Heavyweight Championship due to outside interference from seconds, so tonight's finish got "revenge" for that scenario. Universo had entered the ring illegally in the third fall, had "knocked out" Octagon, and had put a groggy Fuerza Guerrera on top. When the referee saw Universo Dos Mil in the ring, he shoed Universo out. While this was going on, Sagrada came in and clobbered Fuerza Guerrera and put Octagon on top. The ref turned around, saw Octagon on top, and counted to three for the victory. The semifinal saw la Parca, Universo Dos Mil, and el Tornado win two out of three falls from la Mascara Sagrada, el Volador, and el Angel Azteca. For the first time, la Mascara Sagrada wore his traditional mask with a gold background, not a white one, and the magazines were calling him "la Mascara Dorada" after the gold mask. The *tercera* saw a *caballera contra caballera* match with el Ciclón Azul defeating el Cubano in three bloody falls; the rudo got a clean pinfall victory in this match. The *segunda* saw el Flechador, el Escorpion Negro, and el Halcon Guerrero defeat the trio of Juventud Guerrera, Geminis, and la Mancha (whose real name is not Don Quixote) in three falls. The finish of the third fall saw Geminis foul el Flechador for the automatic disqualification. This was actually Juventud Guerrera's debut match (he had been used in ringside angles earlier). Juventud Guerrera is the seventeen-year-old son of Fuerza Guerrera. The *inicial* saw Versatil and el Cachorro Negro defeat Mister U. S. A. and el Cobalto in three falls.

* The AAA held a television taping, with most matches in the can, at el Auditorio de la Feria in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico, on Friday, July 3rd, 1992, one night before they were in Los Angeles, California. The AAA has taken to just putting four matches on its television taping cards instead of the traditional five. The *inicial*, which aired July 5th as the semifinal on Galavision, saw Super Calo, Super Raton, and (Super) Pinocchio defeat Atila junior, Bleda, and el Magnate in three falls. The *segunda*, which aired as the initial match on the July 12th Galavision, saw la Mascarita Sagrada, el Angelito Azteca, and Octagoncito defeat in three falls Jerrito Estrada, el Piratita Morgan, and el Picudito in the match where the first seeds of the break-up of Morgan and Estrada were planted. The semifinal saw the actual AAA debut of Monterrey legend la Panterita del Ring. He teamed with el Angel Azteca and Super Muneco in a losing battle against la Parca, The Ice Killer, and el Maligno, in three super falls. The finish of the third fall saw the two captains involved, as la Parca made Super Muneco submit to the camel clutch, called *la de a caballo* in Mexico. The main event saw Octagon, el Volador, and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo win two straight falls from Jerry "el Puma" Estrada, Fishman, and Cien Caras. The finish of the second fall saw Estrada disqualified for unmasking el Volador. After the match, once again, Aguayo and Fishman issued challenges back and forth for a *mascara contra caballera* match. This was said to be an all-out brawl with a ton of heat.

* The AAA held a television taping on Friday, July 10th, 1992, at el Auditorio Benito Juárez in Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico. This aired on Galavision on Sunday, July 19th, 1992. The *inicial* saw Winners, el Rey Misterio junior, and captain Super Calo win two out of three falls from Psicosis, el Magnate, and captain Marabunta in a total elapsed time of about 13:24. Psicosis debuted in this match, with a costume and mannerisms just like Lyger. El Rey Misterio junior, who used to work the Los Angeles and Tijuana circuits as "Colibri," also debuted for the AAA in this match; though he is absolutely tiny, he turned out to be both solid and spectacular. They introduced a new young referee in this match (CHargo, I think) and a new television commentator (Enrique Vermuda, though I'm not sure about that last name spelling). The tecnicos (Super Calo's team) won the first fall in 6:22 when Misterio pinned Marabunta with a *hurricanrana*; the second fall went 5:12 before Psicosis made Winners submit to the figure four leg lock. They joined the third fall in progress, as Marabunta and Super Calo were going after each other's masks, and the third fall went 1:50 before the rudos were disqualified for drop kicking a tecnico into the referee. They swerved the fans on this one as the fans though heel referee el Tirantes (a. k. a. "el Suspenders" and boy did he have nice psychedelic suspenders this week) looked like he was going to count a pinfall for the rudos instead of disqualifying them. Winners did another spectacular *tope suicida* this week, but once again he landed short. But the dive of the night, if not the year, was el Rey Misterio junior's dive at the end of the third fall, where he combined el Misterioso's cross ring *tope con hilo* with Lyger's full somersault flip. I gave this match ** 1/2. Winners can be spectacular but he is not yet solid....The *segunda* of the night was a *revancha en superlibre* (main event rematch) among the super-mini-estrellas. For the second straight week, captain la Mascarita Sagrada, Octagoncito, and el Angelito Azteca defeated the ruiditos el Picudito, Jerrito Estrada, and captain el Piratita Morgan in three falls in a total elapsed time of 18:04. A new referee, Pepe Mayoral, joined Pepe "Tropi" Casas for this match. The story here again was the break-up of Estrada and Morgan. The little rudos won the first fall in 6:46 when Morgan pinned Sagrada with a *senton* from off of the middle rope and a reverse jumping splash. The second fall went 5:59 before, simultaneously, Azteca pinned Estrada with a *hurricanrana* and Octagoncito pinned Picudito with *una rana invertida*, a sunset flip.

The third fall lasted 5:19 before all the rudos were counted out of the ring after big dives by all three tecnicos. Neither Morgan nor Estrada is turning face (as you will see by next week's television card), but each will be a rudo; they'll just feud with each other. I thought that Sagrada and Morgan were unusually off on their timing, though Sagrada did a nice dive outside of the ring (*mortal al frente*) in the third fall onto Morgan. This was taped in the home town of Octagoncito and he got a nice home town pop. I gave it ***....The semifinal hit us right off the bat, back from commercial, with no introductions. The result saw The Ice Killer, la Parca, and captain Rambo winning two out of three falls from el Angel Azteca, el Galactico, and captain la Panterita del Ring. This was Rambo's (and since when was John Rambo ever a general?) debut match in the AAA and the clear object was to get him over big time, which they did. The first fall saw el Angel Azteca pin Rambo in 10:41 with the missile kick (a dropkick from off of the top rope). But Rambo came back to win the last two falls. In the second fall, at 6:30, he pinned el Galactico with his patented move, *la silla*, while his opponent's head and neck are draped over the bottom rope corner turnbuckle. The move *La Silla* means "the chair," and if you see how Rambo and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo deliver the move (they are the move's two big practitioners), you'll see how they resemble sitting down in a chair as they land crotch-and butt-first onto the opponent. The third fall went 6:38 before Rambo pinned la Panterita del Ring clean in the middle with the power bomb. The third fall of this match went from hard-core to really hard-core, as they brawled into the ring rope barriers and chairs in the first few rows and even did some very mild chair shots. Well done, if not particularly exciting. The overall time for the three falls was 23:49. ***....The main event saw Konnan el Barbaro, Veracruz-State native Octagon, and captain el Hijo del Santo winning two out of three falls from Jerry "el Puma" Estrada, The Blue Panther, and captain Cien Caras two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 21:34. Once again, after the prior match was over and we came back from commercial, we went straight into this match with no introductions. By the end of the card, it was like watching a nine-fall match because there was no room to breathe or no way to give my mind some rest or time to prepare for the next match. The first fall went 10:12 before Konnan el Barbaro (nice green and yellow hair extensions, Carlos) pinned Cien Caras with the same side suplex slam that was the finishing move in the hair match versus el Cobarde II. The second fall went 5:10 before Cien Caras pinned el Hijo del Santo cleanly with the crucifix. The third fall saw a rare AAA main event clean tecnico/babyface victory, as el Hijo del Santo did a rolling *rana invertida* (my roommate John Henrikson thought this was a particularly cool move) on Cien Caras to score the pinfall at the 6:12 mark. El Cobarde II came to ringside during this match and started pounding away on Konnan el Barbaro with that most dreaded of foreign objects, the bright neon yellow baseball cap! Now that is original. And Konnan sold the "blows" from the cap just right too. I guess the cap replaces the squeegee as the newly most dreaded deadly weapon. There was some heat of el Tirantes, as the heel referee enforcing *la ley* of no punches to the tecnicos, but most of the heat was on the wrestlers, and it appeared that the sellout crowd (I'd guess 4,500) was really hot for this match. I gave it ***.

* I have no results for this week's television taping yet. This is the card that will air on Galavision on June 26th, 1992, and was taped at el Auditorio Municipal in Tlaxcala, Coahuila, Mexico, on Friday, July 17, 1992. This aired, as per usual, on channel 4, Televisa, in Mexico City, at 10:00 am-12:00 noon PDT (1:00 pm to 3:00 pm EDT). The main event had Konnan el Barbaro, la Mascara Sagrada, and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo facing the rudo squadron of Universo Dos Mil, Jerry "el Puma" Estrada, and the debuting-with-the-AAA el Angel Blanco junior. The semifinal had el Misterioso, el Volador, and el Angel Azteca facing the rudo squadron of la Parca, Rambo, and "el Chacho" Herodes. The *segunda* had Jerrito Estrada, el Picudito, and la Parkita facing el Piratita Morgan, el Pequeno Cobarde, and el Espectrito (junior). And the *inicial* saw el Rey Misterio junior, la Panterita del Ring, and Super Calo facing the rudo squadron of el Indomito, Psicosis, and the debuting el Therros.

* The AAA had another card set for Friday, July 17th, 1992, at el Auditorio Municipal in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico, but not taped for television. The main event had a *parejas increíbles* match booked. This means that each tag-team would have one rudo and one tecnico. The teams were Octagon and el Espanto junior versus el Hijo del Santo and The Blue Panther. Sounds interesting. The semifinal had Cien Caras, Mascara Ano Dos Mil, and Fishman booked to take on the tecnico team of el Fantasma, el Sicodelico, and Super Muneco. The *segunda* was to see Winners, el Giro, and el Colorado face the rudo squadron of the "Earthquake Trio" of Maremoto, Terremoto, and Hectatombe. The *inicial* saw the return of the "micro-dudes." Here, los Micros Destruyores del Ring were booked to take on the micro-tecnicos Micro Konnan el Barbaro, Micro el Misterioso, and Micro el Volador.

* The AAA promoted what has become its usual two Saturday night cards in the Mexico City area. At la Arena Xochimilco in the "Floating Gardens City" of Xochimilco, Distrito Federal, Mexico, on July 18th, 1992, Mexican National Light Heavyweight Champion Universo Dos Mil made his first defense of his title against number one contender and ex-champion la Mascara Sagrada.

* Also on Saturday, July 18th, 1992, the AAA combined with the UWA to promote a card at la Arena Apatlaco in Iztapalapa, Mexico, Mexico. The main event was most interesting. It featured Mil Mascaras (from the UWA) and el Hijo del Santo (from the AAA) versus Canek (from the UWA) and The Blue Panther (from the AAA). Except for The Blue Panther, the others in this match were, until recently, arguably the three biggest drawing cards in Mexico

UWA

The biggest recent card for the UWA was the Sunday, July 12th, 1992, card, at the "el Toreo de Cuatro Caminos" bull ring in the Mexico City suburb of Naucalpan, Mexico, Mexico. The main event saw los Cowboys (also called los Efectivos), who are Silver King and el Texano, win a double *caballeras contra mascararas* match versus The Can-Am Express I y II. We know the Can-Ams from Japan as Doug Furnas and Danny Kroffatt. The papers reported, however, that their real names were Donald N. S. Funas and Phil Lapson, respectively. Whatever. This was said to have been a very bloody match. The semifinal saw Dos Caras, el Villano III, and Tinieblas I (seconded by his little Ewok-like mascot Alushe) defeat the rudo squadron of Canek, Doctor Wagner junior, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow) two falls to one. The finish of the third fall and the match saw a new standard set for a cheap finish--Canek was disqualified for attacking Alushe! The *tercera* saw el Scorpio junior team up with los Cazadores del Cabezas I y II (The Head Hunters A and B) to defeat the team of The Black Scorpio, Transformer, and Enrique Vera in three falls. The *segunda* saw los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (The Black Power II, el Signo, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro), who are the UWA World Trios Champions, win a non-title, all-rudo match versus Kahos I, el Loco Zandokan, and Rudy "Perfumado" Reyna. Reyna replaced Rambo, who jumped to the AAA. If Rambo had been on the team, it would have been the first re-forming of the "Trio Maldito" who had been two-time UWA World Trios Champions in the late 1980's. The *primera* saw Lasser (who returned to action after experiencing double vision after being punched in the eye, inadvertently, during a match) team with el Matematico I and el Celestial to defeat the rudo squadron of Zeus (ex-Rey Richard), Casandro, and the debuting Nefasto two falls to one.

* The UWA had held a television taping on Friday, July 10th, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl in the Mexico City suburb of the same name. It aired, on Mexico City's Imevision's channel 13 one hour later this week. Normally, the show airs from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm PDT (4:30 pm to 6:00 pm EDT) but due to an Olympics Preview Special, it was delayed this week. The featured guest this week was Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada, who was interviewed and in the semifinal match; they even showed an old picture of Hamada and Riki Choshu wearing IWGP Tag Team Title Belts. This picture is funny, or ironic, because for over 12 years now Choshu and Hamada have had an all-time-record falling out. In his match, Hamada teamed with The Black Scorpio to win two out of three falls from Doctor Wagner junior and Shu, el Guerrero. The first fall saw The Black Scorpio pin Wagner with the moonsault press. Wagner managed to pin Scorpio after a blind foul with a low head butt in the second fall. The third fall saw Hamada do a *tope con hilo*, a *tope suicida* really, over the top rope without even touching that top rope (that's hard to do). Then Hamada pinned Wagner clean with a regular *rana* (roll-up). At about the same time, The Black Scorpio did his famous somersault press onto Shu, el Guerrero. This was the best match of the show, rated by Dave Scherer at ** 3/4. The other two matches were not rated as highly, as both had really cheap finishes. The television opener saw Transformer and el Celestial defeat the father-and-son team of el Scorpio I and el Scorpio junior two falls to one when junior fouled el Celestial in the third fall. The only other moment of note here was that el Scorpio junior got the pinfall on el Celestial in the second fall by using a beer bottle (behind the referees' back, of course). David Scherer was going to give this match ** 1/4, but cut off 1/2 * to a total of * 3/4 because of the ridiculously cheap finish. The other match that aired was the main event. Here, Dos Caras, el Villano III, and Tinieblas I (seconded by Alushe) drew in the third fall with Canek, el Loco Zandokan, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow). Dos Caras had pinned Canek clean with the *huitacatana* to end the first fall. The second fall concluded when el Loco Zandokan made Tinieblas submit. The third fall saw The Killer and Andy Barrow do all their Three Stooges like running into each into each other spots that I alone seem to love. Tinieblas pinned el Loco Zandokan, and el Villano III did a *plancha* onto both Killer and Barrow. This left the two captains, Canek and Dos Caras, in the ring to settle the match. Canek got Dos Caras up into the *la tapatia* (just like the Lizmark/el Satanico match from page one), but this time both mens' shoulders were down for the full count of three. Scherer rated this match at ** 1/2 originally, but cut off 1/2 * for the cheap non-finish, and so we are left with a final grade of **. A couple of other notes. Tala Menendez, instead of her "question of the week" segment, interviewed las Panteras Rosas (los Villanos I, IV, and V) instead. They also ran a first, an advertising trailer for the 7/19 card (the next day's card) at el Toreo [I think that's a smart move.] And, Alfredo Ruiz was back on color commentary. Ruiz returned with a mask, joining the regularly masked duo of Alcatraz and el Principe Valiente, but Ruiz took his mask off at the top of the show,

* Speaking of las Panteras Rosas, they lost a title match for the UWA World Trios Championships on Thursday, July 2nd, 1992, at la Pista Arena Revolucion, failing to defeat the team that had lifted the titles from them last March 1st, los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte.

* Also, courtesy of Titanes del Ring, here are some results from la Arena Netzahualcoyotl that I might not have covered before. Going in chronological order, first is from June 12th, 1992, where the main event saw Canek and Doctor Wagner junior defeat the Puerto Rican duo of Miguelito Perez junior and Ricky Santana in three falls. On June 19th, 1992, Canek, The Killer, and el Loco Zandokan won the main event in three falls over el Villano III, el Villano V, and Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada. The semifinal saw el Coloso and el Celestial victorious in three falls over el Espanto junior and Doctor Wagner junior. The semifinal of the June 26th card saw Silver King, el Texano, and

Enrique Vera win two out of three falls from Bull Pain, el Loco Zandokan, and The Killer. The main event on that card saw el Villano V retain the UWA World Junior Heavyweight Championship by defeating Doctor Wagner junior two falls to one. The finish of the third fall was a clean pinfall for el Villano V via the *huracatarana*.

Finally, here are the results from the Sunday card held July 19th, 1992, at the "el Toreo de Cuatro Caminos" bull ring in Naucalpan, Mexico, Mexico. The main event saw Dos Caras, Silver King, and el Texano win two out of three falls from Canek and The Can-Am Express I y II. I know this will come as a big shock, but the finish of the third fall was a...disqualification! The tecnicos won the first fall with clean pinfalls all around, while the rudos took the intermediate stage when Canek pinned Dos Caras clean. The DQ in the third fall came when, after el Texano did a very nice *plancha* onto Furnas; Dos Caras was ready to pin Canek, when out of desperation, Kroffat fouled Silver King. The semifinal saw Bufalo Allen, el Gigante Warrior, and Doctor Wagner junior (he has not jumped to the AAA yet though rumors persist) win two out of three falls from Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada, el Villano III, and Sato in what was said by both newspapers I saw to be a good match. I think Sato is Akio Sato, but I am not sure. The *tercera* saw The Head Hunters A and B (or los Cazadores del Cabezas I y II, if you prefer) win two out of three falls from las Panteras Rosas (los Villanos I, IV, and V) in what was said not to have been a very good match. The *segunda* found The Babe Face I, el Scorpio junior, and Shu, el Guerrero winning two out of three falls from The King, el Coloso, and el Celestial, in a match where the losing tecnicos did not get along well together. And finally, the *inicial* saw el Dragon CHino I (who is back in action after breaking his arm), el Dragon CHino II, and Korak winning two out of three falls from el Mohicano I (who is back in action after breaking a leg), el Mohicano II, and Casandro.

Now for recent UWA cards:

- * On Monday, July 13th, 1992, at la Arena Puebla, Silver King, el Texano, and Tinieblas I met The Can-Am Express I y II and Doctor Wagner junior in the main event. In the semifinal, el Signo teamed with The Head Hunters A and B to face Enrique Vera, el Tigre Canadiense, and Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada. The *segunda* had The King, Korak, and Transformer facing el Loco Zandokan, el Engendro, and Shu, el Guerrero. The *inicial* saw Takeda, el Gran Apache I, and el Ojo de Tigre facing el Bucanero junior, el Zandokita, and el Rambito. I have no idea who these last two are.
- * Thursday, July 16th, 1992, at la Pista Arena Revolucion in Mexico City, saw The Can-Am Express meet el Villano III and el Gran Hamada in the main event. The semifinal saw The King, el Celestial, and el Tigre Canadiense meet Doctor Wagner junior and The Head Hunters A and B. The second saw Lasser, el Ojo de Tigre, and el Matematico I face Casandro and los Mohicanos I y II. The opener had Mister Condor and el Gran Petroneo face Korak and Takeda.
- * Also on July 16th, at la Arena Toluca in Toluca, Mexico, Mexico, the main event saw Silver King, el Texano, and el Coloso face Shu, el Guerrero, Kahos I, and el Engendro. The semifinal saw Transformer and Moctezuma face los Scorpions senior and junior. The second saw Los Soberanos senior and junior (junior making his debut here) facing el Vagabundo and Aero Flash. The opener had el Leopardo Negro versus el Pequeno Audaz.
- * The television taping (I presume) on Friday, July 17th, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl, had this line-up: The main event was a UWA World Parejas Championships Title Defense with The Can-Am Express I y II defending versus los Cowboys. The semifinal had Canek, Doctor Wagner junior, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow) versus Dos Caras, Enrique Vera, and Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada. The *tercera* had el Loco Zandokan, Shu, el Guerrero, and el Engendro booked to face The King, Transformer, and el Coloso. The *segunda* had Casandro and el Lobo Rubio facing el Celestial and el Matematico I. The *inicial* had Razama facing el Elegante Blanco.
- * Saturday, July 18th, 1992, at la Arena Isabel in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, saw Silver King, el Texano, and el Villano III booked to face Doctor Wagner junior and The Can-Am Express I y II in the main event.
- * Sunday, July 19th, 1992, at la Arena Toluca, saw los Rayos Tapatios I y II, the Parejas Champions of the State of Mexico, defending their titles versus the challenge of el Sevillano and Kahos junior.
- * Finally, the traditional Monday night card at la Arena Puebla in Puebla, Puebla, Mexico, held July 20th, 1992, saw this line-up: The main event saw The Head Hunters A and B team with Bufalo Allen to face the also-rudo trio of Canek, el Loco Zandokan, and Doctor Wagner junior. The semifinal saw The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow) team up with el Gigante Warrior and el Scorpio junior to face Enrique Vera and los Cowboys (Silver King and el Texano). The *segunda* saw Korak, Sato, and Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada face Kahos I, el Engendro, and Shu, el Guerrero. And the *inicial* saw el Bucanero junior and el Kahos junior face Aero Flash and el Celestial.
- * In late notes, UWA co-promoters Carlos Maynes and Karloff Lagarde announced that, yes, they were bringing in "el Tigre Enmascarado" (Koji Kanemoto) from New Japan Pro Wrestling, but that, no, it would not be real soon....The Japanese wrestling magazine Weekly Pro Wrestling reports that the Mexican AAA promotion is still in heavy negotiations with Japan's FMW promotion and America's WWF promotion to work out some sort of co-promotional and talent-trading agreement that would let all 3 promotions coexist in the southwest United States of America....Sorry I did not get into the mid-year summary of the 3 Mexican promotions as I had wanted. Maybe next time. Bye til then.